

Apheresis

What is Apheresis?

Apheresis is a process that allows donors the ability to give only special components of the blood and returning the rest back to the donor. The component most often needed and given in our area is donor platelets.

How does Apheresis work?



Each donor is issued his/her own disposable, sterile kit for an Apheresis procedure. The sterile tubing of the kit goes from one arm through the aphaeresis machine, into a centrifuge and then back to the donor through the other arm. The centrifuge is fitted with special chambers that hold a pouch attached to the kit. These different chambers can be changed to collect whatever component is needed. After a specific component is collected then the rest of the blood is returned to the donor. **NO BLOOD EVER TOUCHES THE INSIDE OF THE MACHINE.**